

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 04511 271926Z

44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 L-02 H-01

CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SY-04 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 SCA-01 JUSE-00 SEC-01 /056 W

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P 271830Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8681

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 4511

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PGOV CS

SUBJECT: FABRICATED DEPARTMENT OF STATE LETTER ON VESCO ISSUE

1. OVER THE PAST WEEKEND COPIES OF A SUPPOSED STATE DEPARTMENT LETTER DATED SEPTEMBER 18, WRITTEN IN SPANISH, SIGNED WITH AN ILLEGIBLE SIGNATURE AND WITH THE ADDRESS BLOCKED OUT, WAS CIRCULATED TO MOST MEDIA OUTLETS IN SAN JOSE. THE LETTER, PLACED ON WHAT APPEARS TO BE GENUINE DEPARTMENT OF STATE LETTERHEAD, MENTIONS THE VISIT OF DEPUTY RODOLFO PIZA TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE WHERE HE ALLEGEDLY DISCUSSED AND RECEIVED THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN HIS EFFORTS AGAINST ROBERT L. VESCO. THE LETTER URGES THE ADDRESSEE TO COORDINATE HIS ACTIVITIES CLOSELY WITH PIZA WHO HAS THE FULL CONFIDENCE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE. A COPY OF THE LETTER WAS FORWARDED TO ARA ON NOVEMBER 26.

2. SEVERAL INQUIRIES FROM THE MEDIA HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY THE EMBASSY ABOUT THE LETTER, BUT ALL HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR CONSIDERABLE DOUBTS ABOUT ITS AUTHENTICITY AND WITH THE EXCEPTION OF "LA PRENSA LIBRE" ON NOVEMBER 26 NONE HAVE PUBLISHED IT. "LA PRENSA LIBRE" PUBLISHED BOTH THE LETTER AND THE ENVELOPE IN WHICH IT ARRIVED AS A NEWS ITEM BUT NOTED BETWEEN LINES THAT IT SEEMED TO BE A FABRICATION. IN ANY EVENT, THE EMBASSY IMMEDIATELY SENT A PRESS RELEASE TO THAT NEWSPAPER

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CHARACTERIZING THE LETTER AS COMPLETELY FALSE. ONE

NEWSPAPERMAN NOTED TO THE EMBASSY THAT OTHER PRO-VESCO MATERIAL HAD ARRIVED AT HIS NEWSPAPER IN SIMILARLY ADDRESSED ENVELOPES. THIS FACT PLUS THE CONTENT OF THE LETTER LEAVES NO DOUBT THAT THIS LETTER IS RELATED TO A VESCO-ORIENTED CAMPAIGN TO DESCREDIT THE GOOD FAITH OF THE CITIZENS' MOVEMENT TO EXPEL VESCO FROM COSTA RICA BY SUGGESTING INVOLVEMENT OF THE USG.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, EXTRADITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SANJO04511
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740344-0937
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974117/aaaaafpu.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 SEP 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <17 MAR 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FABRICATED DEPARTMENT OF STATE LETTER ON VESCO ISSUE
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, CS, US, (VESCO, ROBERT L), (PIZA, RUDOLFO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005